

## **RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**APRIL 14, 2014**

**Board Members:** Wayne Wheeler, Barry Mundt, Bob Pierce, Josh O'Conner, Hutch Kerns

**Council:** Chris Pelly

**Staff:** Debbie Ivester, Assistant Director; Judith Scott, Administrative Assistant; Al Kopf, Superintendent of Planning and Development; Mark Halstead, Program Supervisor; Sandra Travis, Program Supervisor; Christy Bass, Interim Superintendent of Business Services

Wayne opened the meeting at 12:32PM

### **1. Approval of March Minutes**

Wayne called for a motion to approve the March Minutes. Barry motioned to approve. Josh seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Wayne asked for approval of RAB Retreat Work Session Minutes. Bob motioned to approve. Hutch seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

### **2. RAB 2014 Goals**

Wayne asked for approval of RAB 2014 Goals.

Bob questioned the goal of holding the RAB Meeting at different facilities on monthly basis. He suggested it might be better to do it on a quarterly basis. Debbie responded the goal reads RAB may periodically conduct meetings at different facilities. It is up to RAB to determine how often it wishes to do this.

Barry has expressed interest in leading Goal #1 Develop Relationships with City Council.

Hutch suggested RAB discuss goal assignments outside of its regular meeting.

Wayne recommended defer the goal agenda item to the May meeting, and to be ready to adopt the goals and make goal assignments. Wayne will notify RAB members prior to the May meeting.

Hutch is concerned that RAB not take on more goals than it can reasonably accommodate, and RAB take on only what it can manage.

### **3. RAB Term of Membership and Upcoming Vacancy**

Debbie reported on RAB membership. Mildred's second three-year term is coming to an end. The city clerk will advertise for that seat. Jordon, Todd and Josh have agreed to serve a second term. City Council will consider RAB appointments in late May or early June.

#### 4. RAB 2014-2015 Chair and Vice Chair Nomination Process

Prior to this year, RAB assigned a nominating committee in April to bring forward a slate of officers in June. RAB has requested that instead of a nominating committee process, that it takes nominations from the floor. General consensus among RAB members is to take nominations from the floor at the June meeting.

#### 5. Director's Report

Roderick is attending a leadership school so Debbie presented the director's report.

Seth Hendler-Voss, Parks Planning and Development Manager has left the City to accept the position of Town Manager in Canton, NC.. We plan to fill the position, but it may take a couple of months. Interim operations are in place.

Saturday was the Bojangle's Easter Eggstravaganza at Carrier Park. Over 5,000 people attended that was the biggest attendance to date. Bojangle's has been the event sponsor for over seven years.

#### Summer Programs

- Summer programs sign up is underway. See the summer camp brochure at each RAB member's desk.
- Aston Park Tennis Center has opened for the season.
- Swimming pool opening procedures are in progress. Recreation Park pool will open Memorial Day. All pools open daily beginning June 7.

Park Maintenance has begun mowing all parks once a week and park restrooms are opening for the season. Park maintenance peak season is officially open.

#### Maintenance and Improvement Projects

- Pack Square Park stage canopy is a project of the Asheville Downtown Association and expected to be complete this spring.
- Splashville is tentatively scheduled to open on May 3.
- The NC Wildlife Commission has stocked the pond at Azalea Park with fish and will construct a fishing pier as part of its Community Fishing Program. The project is expected to be complete summer 2014.
- The gym at the Montford Center is complete, and work on the Shiloh Center has begun. The floor will be replaced this spring, followed by the remainder of the work to be complete in the fall to include new lights, scoreboard, paint, accessibility, etc. Once Shiloh is complete, the same work will occur at the Stephens Lee Center gym in 2015.
- WiFi is being installed in the recreation centers, and each center will get a new PA system.

The Office of Economic Development manages the Public Art Program, and APRD is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the city's art collection. The city's new acquisition, 51 Biltmore Public Art Project will be located on the Aston street side of the Aloft Hotel public parking garage. Three artist finalists have been selected, and the Selection Panel will choose the final artist in about two weeks.

The RAB name badges have been ordered and will be available at RAB's next meeting.

## 6. Reports

### Asheville Area Riverfront Redevelopment Commission

Wayne reported talk is continuing on the RADTIP transportation improvement project with the Tiger Grant funds. The Commission drafted a letter to recommend City Council to approve the next phase to fund RADTIP.

There was an educational discussion about what is a brown field, and the property owners' responsibility to bring it to a green field and the cost. There was a discussion on the quiet zone and concerns about trains going through the river district. There is also concern about property owners having to pay for the signals so the trains do not need to rely on horns.

Wayne, Bob, Barry and Chris attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Montford Center gym renovation.

## 7. Other Business

Bob gave an update on the road construction in the area of Recreation Park. They are moving roads and putting a turn lane on Swannanoa River Road onto Gashes Creek Road. Al stated that it's on schedule. They are running a water line into Azalea Park that will also connect to the John B. Lewis Soccer Complex. Construction is expected to continue during the next couple years that will affect pools, soccer complex and Nature Center.

## 8. Adjournment

Hutch asked if there were any events coming up this month. Debbie will send information to RAB members.

Wayne called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Josh motioned to approve. Barry seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Adjourned at 1:02 PM